

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IGA-02 EB-11 AGR-20 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 DRC-01 RSC-01 /121 W

----- 012803

P R 041140Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3273

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

CINCPAC CP SMITH HI

COMUSMACTHAI

JCS WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

SECDEF

USSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 10716

FOR STATE/AID

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EAID, CB

SUBJECT: RICE SITUATION

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE RICE SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION SITUATION
IN PHNOM PENH FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30.

	9/23	9/24	9/25	9/26
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BEGINNING STOCK	7,261.4	7,261.4	6,799.5	6,313.0
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ROUTE 5	-	-	-	HOLIDAY
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ROUTE 4	-	-	-	"
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MEKONG RIVER	-	-	-	"
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RECEIPT OTHER MILL	-	98.1	154.4	"
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TOTAL AVAILABLE	7,261.4	7,359.5	6,953.9	"
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LESS DISTRIBUTION	-	445.3	537.7	"
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BALANCE	7,261.4	6,914.2	6,416.2	"
LESS ADJUSTMENT	-	114.7	103.2	"
BALANCE	7,261.4	6,799.5	6,313.0	

9/27	9/28	9/29	9/30
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BEGINNING STOCK	6,313.0	6,313.0	6,313.0	5,650.9
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ROUTE 5	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	-	-
ROUTE 4	"	"	-	-
MEKONG RIVER	"	"	-	-
RECEIVED OTHER MILL	"	"	89.7	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE	"	"	6,402.7	5,650.9
LESS DISTRIBUTION	"	"	727.8	-
BALANCE	"	"	5,674.9	5,650.9
LESS ADJUSTMENT	"	"	23.9	-
BALANCE	"	"	5,650.9	5,650.9

2. STOCK POSITION. AS OF SEPTEMBER 30 THERE WAS 5,650.9 T/T OF RICE BROKENS, AND PADDY IN RICE EQUIVALENT IN PHNOM PENH PUBLIC WAREHOUSES. OCTOBER DELIVERIES TO PHNOM PENH OF THAI RICE AND LOCAL RICE MAY TOTAL APPROXIMATELY 15,000 M/T AS FOLLOWS:

A) FROM THAILAND:

OCT. 2	1,700)
OCT. 6	2,000 (5,000 TRANCHE
OCT. 14	1,300)
OCT. 14	700)
	(12,500 TRANCHE
OCT. 24	5,800)

	11,500

B) FROM BATTAMBANG, A MINIMUM OF 2,000 MT BY USAF C-130'S BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF THE MONTH IF A RATE OF 7 SORTIES PER DAY CAN BE SUSTAINED.

C) FROM KOMPONG CHHANAG BETWEEN 800 AND 1,000 MT. THIS IS CONFIDENTIAL

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RICE THAT LEFT BATTAMBANG ON SEPTEMBER 26 BY TRUCK CONVOY, AND IT NOW PREVENTED FROM REACHING PHNOM PENH BY THE ENEMY INTZB-SHCTION OF ROUTE 5 SOUTH OF KOMPONG CHHNANG. BECAUSE OF LACK OF STORAGE SPACE AT THAT LOCATION THE RICE IS BEING KEPT ON THE TRUCKS WHICH ARE THUS UNABLE TO RETURN TO BATTAMBANG. ADDITIONALLY, THE RICE COMMITTEE IS AFRAID THAT IF THE RICE STAYS TOO LONG IN KOMPONG CHHNANG IT WILL BE TAKEN OVER BY PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION. FOR THESE VARIOUS REASONS,

THE GKR HAS REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN AIRLIFTING THIS RICE TO PHNOM PENH WITH AIR AMERICA C-123'S. WE ARE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO THE GKR'S REQUEST. TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF AIR AMERICA'S AIRCRAFT, WE INTEND TO MOVE TO PHNOM PENH PART OF THE 500MT STILL HELD IN RESERVE IN SAIGON FOR CAMBODIA.

3. RICE DISTRIBUTION. IN THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 23-30 RICE DISTRIBUTION IN PHNOM PENH AND SURROUNDING AREAS HAS AVERAGED 244.4 MT PER DAY BUT ONLY BECAUSE GOVERNMENT WAREHOUSES WERE CLOSED DURING THE 3-DAY RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY. THE AVERAGE DAILY DISTRIBUTION FOR THE WHOLE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER WAS 448.7 MT. ON THE BASIS OF THIS LATTER AVERAGE, THE STOCK OF 5,650.9 MT ON HAND AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS SEPTEMBER 30 CORRESPONDS TO 12.6 DAYS' SUPPLY. HOWEVER, THE RICE COMMITTEE IS MEETING WITH A CERTAIN OPPOSITION IN ITS EFFORTS TO KEEP THE RATE OF DISTRIBUTION DOWN. FANK FOR INSTANCE IS UNABLE TO ACCEPT A REDUCED DAILY QUOTA OF 110 MT AND HAS ASKED THE COMMITTEE TO REINSTATE THE 150 MT QUOTA. THERE ARE ALSO REPORTS OF MILD DISGRUNTLEMENT AT THE "SOUS-ILOTS" LEVEL. THUS, IT IS PROBABLY MORE REALISTIC TO PROJECT A DISTRIBUTION RATE OF 500 MT PER DAY WHICH GIVES 11.3 DAYS' SUPPLY AS OF OCTOBER 1.

4. THAI RICE

A) SECOND 5,000 MT BROKEN RICE. THE VESSEL WING PENG ARRIVED PHNOM PENH OCTOBER 2 BY SPECIAL CONVOY WITH 1700 TONS. THE SECOND VESSEL ADRIANA WITH 2,000 MT DEPARTED BANGKOK ON OCTOBER 29. SHE WILL JOIN THE NEXT REGULAR MEKONG CONVOY NOW SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 6. A THIRD VESSEL, THE TACK TAI IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE BANGKOK OCTOBER 8 TO LOAD THE BALANCE OF THESE 5,000 MT. B) TWO TRANCHES OF 12,500 MT EACH. THE PRESIDENT OF SONEXIM, LY KIM HENG, RETURNED TO PHNOM PENH OCTOBER 3 AFTER SPENDING A WEEK IN BANGKOK. MET AT THE AIRPORT BY ECON OFFICERS, HE DECLARED CONFIDENTIAL

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HIMSELF WELL SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS OF HIS MISSION TO THAILAND. HE CONFIRMED A REPORT FROM EMBASSY BANGKOK THAT THAI MARITIME HAS MADE FIRM ARRANGEMENTS FOR SIX VESSELS TO LOAD IN BANGKOK A TOTAL OF APPROXIMATELY 13,400 MT BETWEEN OCTOBER 8 AND 20. OF THE FIRST 12,500 MT, ONE THOUSAND WILL STAY IN THAILAND TO BE DELIVERED TO URAPAO FOR USAF RICE AIRDROPS OVER CAMBODIA.

THE CONTRACT FOR THE SECOND 12,500 MT WAS FULLY NEGOTIATED BY LY KIM HENG IN BANGKOK, AND IS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED WITHIN A WEEK. WE HAVE ADVISED THE GKR IN WRITING THAT FINANCING OF THIS TRANCHE WILL BE BY THE LETTER OF COMMITMENT METHOD.

5. JAPANESE RICE: 5,000 MT.

THE JAPANESE PROPOSAL FOR AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH THE GKR HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY THE LATTER AND IS PRESENTLY UNDER REVIEW AT THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE. THE JAPANESE ENBASSY HAS BEEN ASKED TO CLARIFY CERTAIN POINTS.

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 IGA-02 EB-11 AGR-20 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 DRC-01 RSC-01 /121 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3274

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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JCS WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

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USSAG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 10716

6. KOREAN RICE: 20,000 MT.

ON OCTOBER 4, THE GKR SENT THE MINISTER OF COMERCE AND LY KIM HENG TO SEOUL VIA BANGKOK. WE BRIEFED THE DELEGATION PRIOR TO ITS DEPARTURE ABOUT SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS PROPOSED BY USAID/ SAIGON, AS WELL AS OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THIS TRANSACTION.

7. AIRLIFTS

AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THE USAF AIRLIFT OUT OF BATTAMBANG GOT UNDERWAY ON OCTOBER 2 WITH 4 SORTIES AND A TOTAL OF 52.8 MT.

THE GKR AIRLIFTS TO KOMPONG THOM AND SVAY RIENG CONTINUES ALBEIT AT A SLOW PACE. HOWEVER, RICE STOCKS AT THESE TWO LOCATIONS

ARE REPORTED TO BE STILL ADEQUATE.

IN KOMPONG CHAM, THE STOCK OF RICE AS OF SEPTEMBER 26 CONSISTED
OF 10,000 SACKS U.S. OR 500 MT. IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE ENEMY
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ATTACK, THE PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES HAVE ESTABLISHED MONTHLY RE-
QUIREMENTS AT 645 MT AS OPPOSED TO 800 MT BEFORE THE ATTACK.
THE RICE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT
OF RICE DISAPPEARED IN KOMPONG CHAM DURING OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER
THE ATTACK, EITHER BY DESTRUCTION OF THE WAREHOUSES OR THROUGH
LOOTING. THE COMMITTEE WANTS THE MISSING RICE TO BE FULLY
ACCOUNTED FOR BEFORE AUTHORIZING NEW RELEASE.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RICE, STOCKPILES, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PHNOM10716
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS ENDERS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PHNOM PENH
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ISecure: 1
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Type: TE
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